

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A gas generator, comprising:

ignition means;

a gas generating agent ignited by ~~said the~~ ignition means ~~for generating to generate~~ gas by combustion; and

a housing including a gas generating agent storage chamber filled with ~~said the~~ gas generating agent, the gas generating agent storage chamber being defined by the housing;

~~therein wherein:~~

~~while said the gas generator housing is vertically configured to operate in and be held and fixed by between~~ a pair of ~~platelike plate~~ members of a seat belt pretensioner apparatus, the plate members being arranged in parallel with each other, and respectively above and below the gas generator;

the housing comprises further comprising a deformable area ~~to be that is~~ deformed to ~~decrease the vertical outside dimension of said~~ reduce a height of the gas generator when the gas generator is held between the ~~fixed by said~~ pair of ~~platelike plate~~ members; and

the housing comprises at least one of a top plate and a bottom plate and the deformable area is provided on the at least one of the top plate and the bottom plate.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 1, wherein:

~~said the~~ deformable area ~~includes comprises~~ a plastic deformable area ~~to be that is~~ plastically deformed when the gas generator is held ~~and fixed by said between the~~ pair of ~~platelike plate~~ members.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 2, wherein:

~~at least either a~~ at least one of the top plate ~~or a~~ and the bottom plate ~~vertically~~
~~located on said housing includes comprises~~ an outwardly protruding projection; and
~~said the~~ projection constitutes ~~said the~~ plastic deformable area.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 3, wherein;
~~said the~~ projection is provided on a part of ~~said the~~ housing ~~partitioning/forming said~~
defining the gas generating agent storage chamber.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 3, wherein;
~~said the~~ housing ~~includes comprises~~ an AC cup storing ~~said the~~ gas generating agent
and a holder having a flange part and a caulking part for fixing ~~said the~~ AC cup on ~~the a~~
periphery ~~thereof of the holder,~~ for fixing ~~said the~~ ignition means; and
~~said the~~ projection is provided on ~~the a bottom~~ surface of ~~said the~~ AC cup constituting
the ~~top place uppermost surface of said the~~ housing.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 5, wherein;
~~the an~~ inner surface of one of ~~said the~~ pair of ~~platelike plate~~ members contacts is in
~~contact with the an~~ outer, planar surface of ~~planarly formed said the~~ flange part; and
~~while the an~~ inner surface of the other one of ~~said the~~ pair of ~~platelike plate~~ members
~~is in contact with said contacts the~~ projection provided on the ~~bottom~~ surface of ~~said the~~ AC
cup ~~in the state where said so that the~~ gas generator is held and fixed by ~~said the~~ pair of
~~platelike plate~~ members.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 6, wherein;

~~said the~~ AC cup ~~includes~~ comprises a side surface for ~~deriving~~ dispensing gas generated by combustion of ~~said the~~ gas generating agent diametrically from ~~said the~~ housing ~~by through an opening in working~~ formed during combustion,; and

the side surface comprises at least one score extending in parallel with ~~the an~~ axial direction of ~~said the~~ housing, the at least one score forming the a starting point of said for the opening, ~~is provided on said side surface.~~

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 1, wherein:
~~said the~~ deformable area ~~includes~~ comprises an elastic deformable area ~~to be that is~~ elastically deformed when held and fixed by ~~said the~~ pair of platelike members.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 8, wherein:
at least ~~either a one of the top plate or a and the bottom plate~~ vertically located on ~~said housing includes~~ comprises a protrusion ~~having including~~ an outwardly protruding top face of a prescribed size,; and

~~said elastic deformable area is constituted of a part, enclosing said protrusion,~~ of ~~said~~ the at least one of the top plate or said and the bottom plate ~~provided with said~~ protrusion including the protrusion constitutes the elastic deformable area.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 9, wherein:
~~said the~~ protrusion is formed by press working,; and
~~the an~~ upper end of ~~said the~~ ignition means is inserted into and positioned ~~on in~~ a recess formed on ~~the an~~ inner surface of ~~said the~~ housing by ~~said the~~ press working.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 9, further comprising:

a combustion control member located between ~~said the~~ ignition means and ~~said the~~ gas generating agent storage chamber for supplying directivity to a flame formed in ~~said the~~ ignition means;

wherein:

~~said the~~ protrusion is formed by press working;

~~the an~~ upper end of ~~said the~~ combustion control member is inserted into a recess formed on ~~the an~~ inner surface of ~~said the~~ housing by ~~said the~~ press working; and

~~said the~~ ignition means is inserted into and positioned in ~~said the~~ combustion control member.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 9, wherein:

~~said the~~ housing ~~includes~~ comprises an AC cup storing ~~said the~~ gas generating agent and a holder ~~having~~ comprising a flange part and a caulking part for fixing ~~said the~~ AC cup on ~~the a~~ periphery ~~thereof of the holder,~~ for fixing ~~said the~~ ignition means; and

~~said the~~ protrusion is provided on ~~the bottom a~~ surface of ~~said the~~ AC cup constituting the top plate of ~~said the~~ housing.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 12, wherein:

~~the an~~ inner surface of one of ~~said the~~ pair of ~~platelike plate~~ members is ~~in contact~~ with contacts ~~the an~~ outer, planar surface of ~~planarly formed~~ ~~said the~~ flange part; and

~~while the an~~ inner surface of the other one of ~~said the~~ pair of ~~platelike plate~~ members is ~~in contact with the~~ contacts a top face of ~~said the~~ protrusion provided on the ~~bottom~~ surface

of ~~said the~~ AC cup ~~when said so that the~~ gas generator is held and fixed by ~~said the~~ pair of ~~platelike-plate~~ members.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 13, wherein:
~~said the~~ AC cup ~~includes-comprises~~ a side surface for ~~deriving-dispensing~~ gas generated by combustion of ~~said the~~ gas generating agent diametrically from ~~said the~~ housing ~~by-through an opening formed during combustion in working,;~~ and
the side surface comprises at least one score extending in parallel with ~~the-an~~ axial direction of ~~said the~~ housing, the at least one score forming the-a starting point of ~~said-for the~~ opening, ~~is provided on said side surface.~~

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The gas generator according to claim 8, further comprising:
an elastic member located on ~~the-an~~ outer surface of at least one of the ~~either-a-top~~ plate ~~or-a-and the~~ bottom plate ~~vertically located on said housing,;~~
wherein ~~said the~~ elastic member constitutes ~~said the~~ elastic deformable area.